

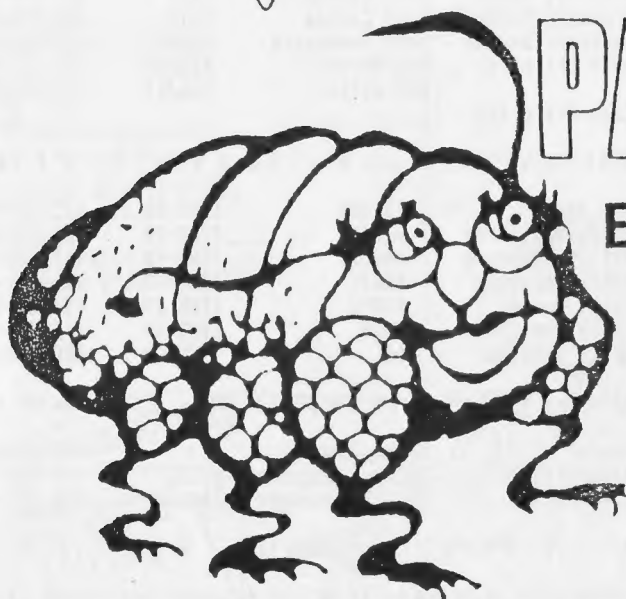
# PAARA



# graphs



APRIL 1989



# PAARA

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## APRIL 8

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF THE PALO ALTO AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSOCIATION

AND

THE MENLO PARK C.D. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



# PAARA

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Vice-President	Andy Korsak	VE3FZK	415-366-5228
Secretary	Cap Stubbs	KJ6KV	415-323-5079
Treasurer	Lily Anne Hillis	N6PGM	415-325-5404
Trustee, W6OTX	Fred Canham	K6YT	415-948-9238
Property/Badges	Fred Canham	K6YT	415-948-9238
Refresh/Co-Prop	John Buonocore	KD6ZL	415-366-1658
ARES Officers:	Ted Moran	KB6UDA	415-325-9861
	Rob Walker	KA6JLT	415-321-9981
Club Historian	-----	-----	-----

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Advertising	Swede Swenson	N6CHL	415-368-8503
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## PAARA POLICIES

Membership in PAARA is \$6.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAgaphs. Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026

Club Net 147.45 MHz Mondays 8:30 PM

Meet at 7:30 PM on the first friday of each month at the Menlo Park Recreation Center.

Send PAARAgaphs correspondence to:

CHUCK JOHNSON, EDITOR  
3309 MOUNT LOGAN DRIVE  
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95127

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

THIS ISSUE ALERTS US TO THE FLEA MARKET WE HAVE AT FOOTHILL ON APRIL 8. MORE DETAILS ELSEWHERE. PULL-OUT FLYER ALSO INSERTED. IT WILL BE GREAT IF WE CAN APPROACH THE LEVEL OF LAST YEAR'S EFFORT. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, PLAN TO BE THERE TO HELP OUT. NEXT BIG EVENT IS OUR SPRING PICNIC, MAY 20, AT RON W6VG & HELGA'S QTH. THIS IS WHERE THE YEAR'S HALFTIME FESTIVITIES ARE HELD! FIELD DAY IS STARING AT US AS WELL FOR JUNE. TIL MAY (W6VG PICNIC MONTH) 73 DE YOUR EDITOR. (N6???)

## SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

SPEAKERS & FILM. AMATEUR RADIO FOR VISUALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE: REPORT & DISCUSSION OF THE PAARA COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM. FILM: "WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU MEET A BLIND PERSON?" SPEAKERS: KAY KNOTT, REC. THERAPIST & LIZ CAVAZOS, LIVING SKILLS INSTRUCTOR, WESTERN BLIND REHABILITATION CENTER, PALO ALTO V.A. MED CENTER; GUEST COMMENTATOR: JOHN GLASS NU6P, CUST. SVC. REP., ADVANCED COMPUTER CONTROLS INC. === UPDATE ON SPECIAL TRAINING MATERIALS & OPERATING AIDS FOR HAMS WITH IMPAIRED EYESIGHT; PAARA's VOLUNTEER SUPPORT OF THE V.A. HAM RADIO STATION & ORIENTATION PROJECT.

\*\*\*DINNER W/GUESTS: SU HONGS, EL CAMINO OFF RAVENSWOOD, MENLO PARK, 5:45PM ON MEETING FRIDAY APRIL 7TH! MEETING 7:30!

-DE K6FS STEVE

# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I HOPE EVERYONE WHO WAS INTERESTED GOT TO THE MARCH FLEA MARKET. I HAD A GREAT TIME & FOUND A FEW BARGAINS. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE PAARA EFFORT ON APRIL 8. PLEASE LOOK FOR DETAILS ON A NEARBY PAGE. FRED K6YT IS REWORKING OUR RECENTLY ACQUIRED TOWER FOR USE BY THE CW FIELD DAY TEAM, (NOW LESS THAN 90 DAYS AWAY)! N6PGM HAS DRAWN A BLANK REGARDING A RESTAURANT FOR THE DECEMBER DINNER. PLEASE HELP HER OUT WITH SUGGESTIONS. MANY OF YOU MAY HAVE NOT NOTICED THAT ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER THAT WE ALSO DO BUSINESS AS THE MENLO PARK C.D. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. THE CLUB'S LICENSE K6YQT HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY RENEWED FOR ANOTHER 10 YEARS WITH MYSELF AS TRUSTEE. AS YOU MAY KNOW, THESE CLUB LICENSES ARE NO LONGER BEING ISSUED, SO IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US NOT TO LOSE OUR GRANDFATHERED PRIVILEGES. THE STATION LOCATION IS THE CIVIC CENTER MENLO PARK, AND THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THAT SITE. IF ANY BOARD MEMBERS ARE IN DOUBT AS TO THE LOCATION, PLEASE CONTACT STEVE K6FS. LAST BUT NOT LEAST, RESERVE MAY 20 FOR THE SPRING PICNIC AT W6VG's QTH!

DE WA6LNV

# PRESENT CONCERN

(2)

APRIL 8 = PAARA FLEA MARKET =

MANY OF YOU WILL RECALL THAT PAARA DREW THE MARCH POSITION LAST YEAR & HAD PERHAPS ONE OF THE LARGEST CROWDS EVER. THIS YEAR THE THREAT OF RAIN SEEMED TO KEEP EVERYONE SLIGHTLY CAUTIOUS, BUT BY 9 O'CLOCK OR SO THEY HAD A PRETTY GOOD CROWD. PAARA INCREMENTS UP BY 1 MONTH AND SO HAS THE APRIL 8 POSITION. WE WILL HAVE PLENTY OF HOTDOGS THIS TIME & WILL PUT OUT A STRONGER EFFORT ON EARLY MORNING COFFEE. TENTATIVE SUPPORT ASSIGNMENTS ARE:

SET-UP 5:30AM- PAUL N6FEG;

GENERATOR 6AM- FRED K6YT;

PARKING SPACE SALES 6AM- N6PGM & TEAM;

100 CUPS COFFEE 6AM- RICH W6APZ;

" " " " GERRY WA6LNV;

DONUTS 30 DOZ. 6AM- K6MPN;

ICE 150 LBS. 6AM- KD6ZL;

HOTDOGS 6:30AM- ANDY VE3FZK;

SODA 6:30- GERRY WA6LNV;

GENERAL SALES SUPPORT- FRANK WB6QPV,

LEN WA6HLE,

JOHN K6JJU,

CAP KJ6KV,

BILL KJ6PG,

CHUCK (N6???),

AMI N6TPW,

CRAIG N6ITW,

JOHN KD6ZL,

JACK W6LII,

DICK W6AQL,

& STAN WA6ZGI.

## PAARA HAS FOR SALE!:

FIVE 10' TRI-EX TOWER SECTIONS,  
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2 SECTIONS OF STEEL TOWER, 38'  
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CONTACT CLUB PROP. CUSTODIAN  
FRED K6YT. PHONE: (415)948-9238..



# Amateur Radio Op

By Jill Wallace

Scientists have long been predicting that a major earthquake will occur in the Bay Area, and many county agencies are constantly preparing in case disaster strikes. There also exists a league of private radio operators who spend their free time networking communications in case of disaster.

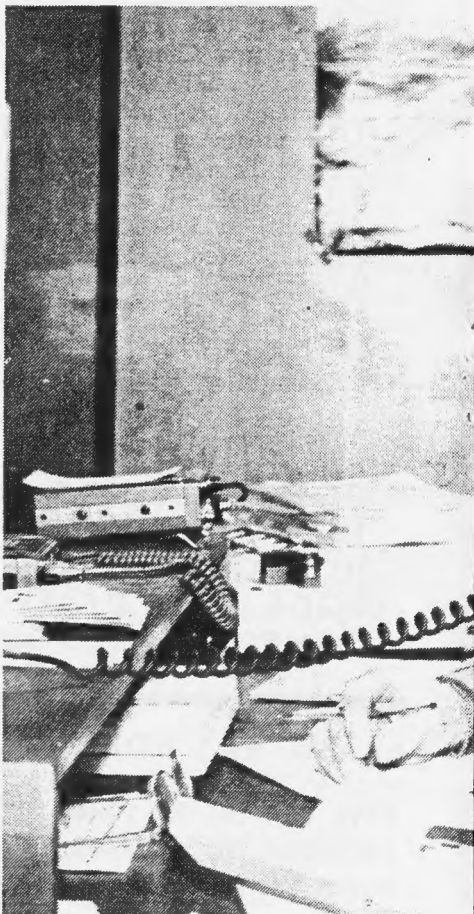
The South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (SCARES) is a non-profit organization which consists of a group of amateur radio operators (hams) who own two-meter handy-talkie transceiver radios to perform various public services while having fun.

## "Extra Eyes and Ears"

Amateur radio operators assist the Redwood City, San Carlos, and Belmont police departments, according to Dick Collins, president of SCARES, by "providing back up communications when needed." SCARES has an amateur radio station set up next to the Redwood City Police dispatcher.

During exceptionally hectic times such as Halloween, the ham radio station jumps with activity of incoming communication from various ham operators, who report any unusual activities in the community. Pertinent information is then relayed to the police dispatcher, and used accordingly.

Lily Anne Hillis, public relations director of SCARES says it is times like Halloween that amateur radio becomes



Dick Collins, president of SCARES.

the "extra eyes and ears" of local police stations.

This link in communication is also



## Operators Ham It Up

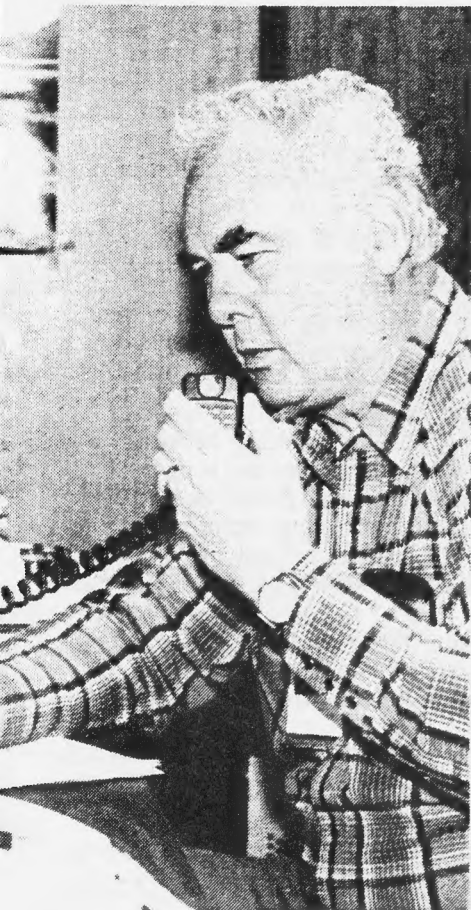


Photo By Augustine Buonocore

forged during July 4th, when SCARES assists the Peninsula Celebration Association in maintaining an organized parade

in Redwood City. Hillis says the 4th of July parade "...combines service with fun. One of the best kept secrets is that it's (amateur radio) really fun."

There are many service oriented activities which involve amateur radios. SCARES has installed an antenna on the roof of Sequoia Hospital, where they work in conjunction with Sequoia Hospital's "In House Emergency Preparedness" group, which trains hospital staff to cope with emergency situations. The group is associated too with "Operation Watch," where ham operators assist the police in looking for wandering convalescent elderly, lost children, and children who have been abducted.

### "Private Applications"

Bill Wiltschko is typical of a ham radio operator. After receiving a level three license in the Navy (there are five levels of F.C.C. licenses for amateur radio broadcasting), Wiltschko left radio when he retired from the service.

"I'm just getting back into this," says Wiltschko. "I'm trying to do as much as I can whenever I can."

He said, "Only a week ago I got a flat on 280. I called AAA (on my mobile radio unit), and I called my wife. It saved me walking a long way. Its (ham radio) got private applications as well."

Pat Gormley, a local resident with Multiple Sclerosis, fell out of bed one day while being alone. With only his radio for help, he contacted a fellow ham

Continued on Page 30

MORE...  
NEXT PAGE



## *Hams Meet Regularly, Preparing To Serve*

Continued from Page 8

operator who, in turn, contacted his wife.

### **"Purely Social"**

Collins maintains that, other than "over the radio," there are three ways ham operators officially maintain contact. There is a "purely social" monthly brunch, and a weekly check-in every Monday night at 7:30. During a check-in, SCARES officers test equipment and antennas, as participants broadcast on 147.450 megahertz. In addition, the group has a monthly meeting at San Carlos city hall the third Thursday of each

month at 7:30 p.m. Collins says these meetings are useful because it gives ham operators an opportunity to "discuss problems, air new ideas, and listen to guest speakers."

Hillis comments "amateur radio is very inclusive. Anybody that wants to become a radio operator is accepted. Getting a federal license is the initiation rite."

The ages of ham operators vary, and there are approximately 50 members in the South County chapter. Companies such as Hewlett Packard, IBM, and Intel have their own ham radio clubs. Private donations are "used to buy new equipment and update old."

Collins emphatically believes, "It is the total involvement and support of the membership that should be accredited with the successes of the program."

In order to get new members, Collins will be instructing a novice-level class for about 10 people beginning this month. Telephone 926-3935 for more information.



TNX TO LILY N6PGM FOR  
PROVIDING THIS EXCELLENT  
STORY OF HAMS IN ACTION! -ED.

LILY IS CURRENTLY RECOVERING FROM A  
HORSEBACK RIDING INJURY, WHICH HASN'T  
DETERRED HER FROM THE GOAL OF GETTING  
BACK IN SADDLE. TAKE IT EASY LILY, YOU  
ARE TOO IMPORTANT TO THIS CLUB! -ED



# 1988 CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY

What A Difference a Year Makes  
Incredible conditions!  
Great activity!  
Lots of fun!

These are just a few of the ways that participants described the 1988 running of the California QSO Party (CQP), sponsored each year by the Northern California Contest Club (NCCC). The mediocre propagation which plagued the 1987 CQP, as well as the 1984, 1985, and 1986 Parties, gave way to some super hard conditions in 1988. With the solar flux hovering near the 200-mark, the A at 5 and the K at zero, and low geomagnetic activity, it's no wonder that CQP entrants were able to form a 125 KC wide wall of RF on 10 sideband during both days of the contest!

Not only was propagation superb--so was activity. A record 364 logs were received from 56 of 58 California counties, 46 states, 7 Canadian sections, and 21 DXCC countries. It was another year of record-setting performances, as no less than 42 entrants set new single-op scoring marks--13 in CA and 26 out of state.

Many of the participants in the Cal QSO Party have concluded that the CQP is much more than just a contest. For most, it's plain and simply FUN! Unlike most other radiosporting events, in the CQP you don't need big antennas and an amplifier to make a good score. The Party provides out-of-state ops with the opportunity to work lots and lots of W6s, and to contact most or all of the counties they need for the NCCC-sponsored "Worked All California Counties" Award. And, for stations in the Golden State, it gives them the chance to "be DX," to be the "hunted" rather than the "hunters."

SPECIAL AWARD: TOP CLUB IN CALIFORNIA (SPONSORED BY PAARA)-- REDWOOD EMPIRE DX ASSN. (3 ENTRIES)-- 105,474 PTS. --DE GARY CALDWELL WA6VEF via FRED K6YT!-ED.

ANDY VE3FZK WILL HAVE A LENGTHY HUMAN INTEREST HAM STORY "NO SOAP RADIO" FOR INSPECTION AT NEXT MEETING. (DISCOVER MAGAZINE, JAN '89). -ED. NOTE=

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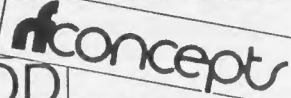
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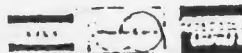


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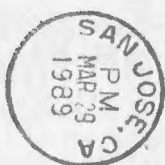
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